



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

1401 EAST BROAD STREET
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23219-2000

GREGORY A. WHIRLEY
COMMISSIONER

June 29, 2012

TO: County Administrators/City & Town Managers

RE: 2012 Legislative Update

Each year, my office has typically provided a brief summary of transportation related legislation that will be going into effect on July 1 of that year. VDOT's Policy Division has developed a comprehensive report of this year's legislation that was tracked by the Department, and we are providing a link to that document for your information. The report is organized alphabetically by category/topic. It can be accessed at:

http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/resources/2012_Legislative_Report.pdf

Some of these legislative changes had impacts to programs administered by the Local Assistance Division. As such, we wanted to provide additional information about those specific program impacts.

SB 230 (Ch 470) – Administration of Local Highway Projects

Adds a new Code Section §33.1-223.2:26 related to administration of highway projects. This legislation codifies many of our current efforts regarding training, streamlining and certification of local governments to enable them to successfully administer local projects.

HB 1248 (Ch 729)/ SB 639 (Ch 733) – Transportation Construction, Operation and Maintenance, and Funding

This legislation resulted in many changes in the *Code of Virginia* including revisions to §33.1-23.05, the Revenue Sharing Program statute. The most significant change in that Code Section was re-establishing maintenance projects as eligible for Revenue Sharing funding. The total funding limits remain the same with a locality being able to request a maximum of \$10M, but the new legislation also provides that up to \$5M of that request can be specified for maintenance projects. The statute, as revised, requires that priority be given *first* to allocations that will accelerate projects in the Commonwealth Transportation Six-Year Improvement Program or the locality's capital plan. Once that priority has been satisfied, to the extent revenue sharing funds remain available, priority will be given to those maintenance projects addressing bridges and pavement that are below VDOT's established maintenance condition rating. As indicated in my June 21st letter, we are currently updating the *Revenue Sharing Program Guidelines* to incorporate these legislative changes and propose to have those approved by the Commonwealth Transportation Board in July. These changes will be effective with the applications submitted for FY14 funding. We have posted Frequently Asked Questions

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on our website to address some of the questions we have heard regarding the changes to the Revenue Sharing Program.

Our division looks forward to working with you to ensure successful implementation of this and other applicable legislation. If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact your local VDOT office or you can reach me at 804-786-0334 or by email at Jennifer.DeBruhl@vdot.virginia.gov.

Sincerely,

Jennifer B. DeBruhl
Director, Local Assistance Division

cc: Virginia Association of Counties
Virginia Municipal League
Mr. Richard L. Walton, VDOT
Ms. JoAnne Maxwell, VDOT
District Administrators